[3rd December 1952

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Without assuming anything, Sir, unless there is reasonable basis, may I ask, whether the Hon. Minister can tell me how long will the effects of drunkenness be on the man." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The question again is an elementary proposition as to the burden of proof. When it is charged that any man is out of order in his behaviour, the burden of proof is on those who allege, and if you are not able to produce evidence, it does not mean that we should presume that the allegation is true."

American 'Hallet' Pumpsets.

* 246 *Q.*—SRI M. MUNI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many American "Hallet" pumpsets were purchased in the years 1948–49, 1949–50, 1950–51 and 1951–52 and from whom;

(*b*) whether they were purchased with the necessary spare parts;

(*c*) whether the importers have the necessary original and genuine spare parts for the pumpsets supplied to the Government;

(*d*) how many engines are in working order; how many are condemned; and what is the life of the engine supplied when compared to other makes available in the market; and

(*e*) how many Petter Kirloskar sets were purchased and what is the cost of each set?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (*a*) One-hundred and six numbers of American "Hallet" engines (96 numbers of 8-h.p. units and 10 of 18-h.p. units) were purchased by the Agricultural department in the year 1949–50 for hiring to ryots. There were no purchases of this make either previous or subsequent to this.

" (*b*) No.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) No. As the repairs to the engines are carried out in the mufassal then and there when they fall into disrepair, it is not possible to give the number of engines in working order at any time. No engine has so far been condemned. The life of these engines is eight years as in the case of other makes.

" (*e*) Fifty (50) numbers of AV. 2 Petter/Kirloskar sets of 6-h.p. were acquired during 1950–51 for hiring out to ryots, at a cost of Rs. 2,620 each exclusive of sales tax."

Housing Scheme at Madanapalle.

* 247 *Q.*—SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Co-operation be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Housing Scheme at Madanapalle was taken up by the Co-operative department;

(b) at what stage it is to-day; and

(c) what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" (a) The Madanapalle Co-operative Building Society has undertaken the Government-sponsored Housing Scheme at Madanapalle."

" (b) An extent of 33·61 acres of land has been acquired and handed over to the society. The land has been laid out into 165 plots; 96 plots have so far been allotted to the members and the rest are pending allotment. The society has got approved 20 type designs of houses and has worked out the necessary estimates. Construction of 12 wells had been completed and foundations have been excavated in respect of six houses. Loan applications are under preparation."

" (c) No action by Government is called for in the present stage of the affairs of the society."

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" ఇప్పుడు మదనపల్లిలో రెండు వేలమంది చేతిపనివారు అనగా బేలుదార్లు, కొయ్య పనివారు పనులు లేక నిరుద్యోగులై పస్తులు ఉండుకొంటున్నారు కాబట్టి, ప్రభుత్వం అన్ని గృహముల యొక్క నిర్మాణం ఒకదఫాలో వెంటనే శాంక్షన్ (sanction) చేస్తుందా? కరువుకాటకాలలో బాధపడుతున్న పై వారికి పని కల్పించే నిమిత్తం ఈ విషయమై శ్రద్ధ తీసుకొంటుందా? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" కరువుచేత నిరుద్యోగులైన బాధపడుతున్న వారికి పనులు కల్పించే నిమిత్తం ఈ గృహ నిర్మాణ ప్రణాళిక ఉద్దేశింపబడలేదు. వారికి పని కల్పించే నిమిత్తం అనేక ప్రణాళిక లున్నాయి."

Collection of house tax by panchayat boards.

* 248 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state what are the reasons which prompted the Government to authorize panchayat boards to levy a new tax called house tax in panchayat board areas in this State?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to section 63 of the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1950, under which the levy of house-tax, amongst others, by panchayats is obligatory."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that people are overburdened with so many taxes and there is so much unemployment in the country, will the Government be pleased to withdraw these new taxes? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The house tax is the main source of revenue for the panchayats. If they are to do some work and improve the villages, they have to tax the people there."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Sir, may I know, whether the Government have received any memorandum from the people in